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OCI NOTICE
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OPERATIONS
28 February 1973

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

A NEW CHANNEL FOR CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
SUPPORT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

1. The basic vehicles which the President and Dr. Kissinger use to keep themselves informed of current developments abroad are a series of information summaries prepared in the White House Situation Room (WHSR). The WHSR produces a daily Information Summary for the President at about 0745 which runs from 2-6 single-spaced pages. It also produces three daily summaries for Dr. Kissinger, morning, mid-day, and late afternoon; these tend to be longer and more detailed than the report for the President. The WHSR produces these reports seven days a week, and they are delivered to the President and Dr. Kissinger wherever they may be. They go to no one else.
2. The WHSR has produced these reports with its own small staff from its own substantial take of raw information and finished intelligence, supplemented occasionally by contributions from NSC Staff members. It has now asked CIA to contribute items for these purposes, and this process got under way in mid-February.
3. The Agency's mechanism for providing this support is the White House Support Staff, formerly the Special Projects Staff and often called the PDB Staff. It is located in OCI in Room 7F21. It scans most incoming traffic and functions almost continuously, with gaps covered by the Operations Center next door. It types its items for the WHSR on a special form and sends them by LDX as they are completed, rather than collecting and transmitting them on a set schedule. It maintains contact with the WHSR to solicit requirements and feedback.
4. Items sent to the WHSR cover the entire range of intelligence information at all classifications. They originate in three ways:

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- (a) At the request of the WHSR;
- (b) At the initiative of DDI intelligence officers;
and
- (c) At the initiative of the White House Support Staff, acting in consultation, when possible, with the appropriate analyst.

The Support Staff is developing a sense of WHSR priorities, which stress developments that are impinging or will shortly impinge on the President's attention, and is communicating them to DDI analysts as they are refined.

5. Items for the WHSR must be short and pithy. Often they are factual gists of new information; sometimes they include, in addition, an analytic comment designed to provide perspective or draw implications. They constitute fast-reaction reporting and first-cut analysis, not the Agency's considered official judgment. They avoid sweeping conclusions, and often contain phrases such as "our initial reaction is..." or "at first glance this seems to mean..."

6. The contribution of current intelligence items to the WHSR through the White House Support Staff is a priority responsibility of all analysts in OCI, OER, and OSR. Analysts are expected to take the initiative in preparing such items, in consultation with the White House Support Staff as necessary. Analysts are encouraged to visit the White House Support Staff and discuss this new form of intelligence support. Peg points for this support are [REDACTED] in OSR and [REDACTED] in OER.

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7. The White House Support Staff receives draft copies of items submitted to the regular CIA current intelligence publications. It is the Staff's responsibility to scan these drafts, make selections, and produce gists for the WHSR, consulting with the original drafter when necessary.

8. The White House Support Staff operates from 0800 to 1900 and 0100 to 0700. Staff members are thus on hand in the periods before the WHSR deadlines for getting the Summaries together for the President and Dr. Kissinger. On weekends, the hours are 0930 to 1400 on Saturdays and noon to 1800 on Sundays.

9. During the hours when no member of the White House Support Staff is on hand, the CIA Operations Center touches base with the WHSR on late-breaking developments and provides

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whatever assistance may be required. During these times, the Senior Duty Officer is responsible for drafting items, obtaining inputs from the analysts as needed, and LDXing to the WHSR.

10. The White House Support Staff is currently sending between 10 and 20 items a day in this format to the WHSR. This volume may change as we get a clearer sense of WHSR requirements. The Support Staff expects to be in touch with the analysts as it learns more about the subject, content, and form needed to make this intelligence support as useful as possible.

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RICHARD LEHMAN

Director of Current Intelligence

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